

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

ABC

7 November 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Baltic SSR's

1. The attached project is forwarded for consideration by the Projects Review Committee. It would be greatly appreciated if this project could be considered by the Committee during its meeting next week or, at the latest, the week after.

2. Representatives of BBC will be in Washington early in December to discuss monitoring activities with FBID, and Baltic coverage should be discussed with them at that time.

3. This project was approved in principle by the Deputy Director (Intelligence) on 31 October 1952.


Assistant Director for Operations

25X1

Enclosure
Subject Project

OO-JLarocque/hbd-7 Nov 52

Distribution:

- Orig & 1 - DD/I
- 1 - Each PRC Member
- 2 - OO
- 2 - FBID

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SECURITY INFORMATION

7 November 52

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Review Committee
FROM: Assistant Director for Operations
SUBJECT: Monitoring of Baltic SSR's

1. **PROBLEM.**—To provide radio monitoring coverage of the Baltic SSR's and other areas of northwestern USSR.
2. **FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM.**
 - a. The need for this project arises out of the responses (Tabs D-L) to Tab C.
 - b. The British Broadcasting Corporation Monitoring Service (BBC MS):
 - (1) under the terms of the reciprocal arrangement has primary responsibility for monitoring transmitters in northwestern USSR,
 - (2) probably cannot undertake the coverage within its strict budgetary limitation,
 - (3) can provide the coverage more economically and with less difficulty than the Foreign Broadcast Information Division,
 - (4) will make the full product of any of its monitoring available to FBID.
 - c. Stockholm appears to be the most suitable location technically for monitoring of northwestern USSR. A BBC MS reception survey shows that regular coverage of Karelo-Finnish, Estonian, Latvian and Byelorussian Republics, as well as of Leningrad and Kaliningrad, could be maintained. (Tab B)
 - d. Coverage would require a BBC staff at Stockholm for listening and recording and at BBC MS headquarters at Gowerham, England, for transcribing records at an approximate annual cost of \$50,000.
 - e. The potential significant yield from such a monitoring operation is estimated to average between five and ten thousand words per day in the following principal categories:

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- (1) Economic, agricultural and industrial data.
- (2) Regional political and sociological information.
- (3) Other information useful to the U. S. psychological effort.

3. DISCUSSION.

- a. The HEC NS can provide Baltic area coverage more cheaply than FBID can, due principally to the difference in British and American wages. It is reasonable to expect a better co-ordinated operation from HEC NS since it presently covers Moscow and Eastern Europe. Finally, it is believed that FBID as an overt component of CIA would encounter more difficulty in securing Swedish permission to operate in Stockholm than would the HEC, a semi-private corporation.
- b. The delay involved in monitoring and recording in Stockholm and transcribing in England is estimated at ninety-six hours. This would not significantly diminish the value of the material. (Tab D-L)
- c. The HEC NS has indicated that due to strict budgetary limitations there is little hope for a positive decision on its part to undertake this additional commitment. (Tab A) It is probable that the only way in which such coverage can be secured is by partial or complete financial support by FBID. No precedent exists for subsidizing or otherwise paying for activities to be carried out by the HEC NS. The reciprocal arrangement under which HEC NS and FBID cooperate is largely a quid pro quo with both services performing those functions which they are best equipped to carry out and freely exchanging the results.

4. CONCLUSIONS.

- a. The HEC NS can best perform monitoring of the Baltic States and associated areas.
- b. FBID may have to defray part or all of the expense if this monitoring is undertaken.
- c. The interest of the intelligence agencies in this coverage warrants the expenditure of up to \$50,000 annually for this purpose.

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5. **RECOMMENDATION.**---It is recommended that the Assistant Director for Operations be authorized to negotiate at the forthcoming FRIS-BBC Joint Coordination Committee Meeting for a monitoring operation to provide coverage of the Baltic SSR's and associated areas at the most advantageous financial terms possible within an overall limitation of \$50,000 per year.

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[Redacted]
Assistant Director for Operations

Tab:

- A - Letter from R. D. Marriott to [Redacted] 17 June 1952.
- B - Extracts from BBC MS Report on Stockholm Survey, 10-30 March 1952.
- C - Memo from ADO to State, Army, Navy, Air, ONI, OGI, ONR, 21 August 1952, Monitoring of Baltic SSR's.
- D thru L- Memos from IAC agencies in response to 21 August 1952 memo from ADO, Monitoring of Baltic SSR's.

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ACTION BY APPROVING AUTHORITY:

Date _____

Approved (disapproved).

001FB:AMM/pgc - 57/1052

PRC - Orig & 6
OO - 2
DD(I) - 2
Return FB - 1
BBC file - 1
AMM - 1

-3-

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A

THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Head Office: Broadcasting House, London, W. 1

CAVERHAM PARK, READING, BERKES.

Telephone: Reading 72742

**Reference:
07.MS.RDM**

25X1

[Redacted]
F.B.I. Sup
2130 E Street, NW,
Washington 25, D.C.

17th June 1952

25X1

Dear [Redacted]

I am sending you herewith two copies of our report on the investigation in Stockholm into the coverage of the Baltic States and associated areas, and I am also sending a copy to Wey here.

The report is being sent at the same time to our authorities here and I will keep you informed of any decision which is taken in the matter. You have already, I believe, had transcripts of the actual bulletins which we sampled and have expressed interest in the material which was obtained from them, and I should be very glad to know now what your reaction to the whole project is.

I cannot be too hopeful that there will be a positive decision about it here because to do so on any scale that would be worth while would undoubtedly cost a fair amount of money, and I cannot see that there is anything in our present coverage which we could give up to balance that which would not make a bigger hole than the one which we are trying to plug. However, your views on the matter would certainly be useful.

Yours sincerely,

/s/

R. D. Marriott

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21 August 1952

SECURITY INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, OIR, Department of State
Director, OIB, Department of State
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Department
of the Army
Chief of Psychological Warfare, Department
of the Army
Director of Naval Intelligence, Department
of the Navy
Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, USAF
Deputy Director (Plans)
Assistant Director for National Estimates
Assistant Director for Current Intelligence
Assistant Director for Research and Reports

COPY

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Baltic SSR's

1. It is desired to assess intelligence and psychological warfare requirements for monitoring coverage of domestic broadcasts in northwestern USSR, particularly the Baltic republics, against the expense and organizational complications involved in effecting it.

2. Attachment reports the result of a BBC survey of potential coverage, concluding that a satisfactory operation might be carried out at an annual cost of about \$50,000 under a procedure in which recordings would be mailed to England for processing, with a delay of perhaps 96 hours in reporting resultant information. Processing at the monitoring site and reporting by telecommunications would add substantially to the cost.

3. The potential significant yield from such a monitoring operation is estimated to average between five and ten thousand words per day in the following principal categories in order of volume:

a. Economic-agricultural-industrial data on the area of the type published in the FBIS Economic Abstracts.

b. Regional political and sociological information such as FBIS publications derive from other Soviet regional broadcasts.

c. Information useful to the U.S. psychological effort exclusive of that covered by categories a. and b.

Sample transcripts are available from FBIS on request.

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4. Your estimate of the value of this coverage, your opinion whether the value would be seriously reduced by a 96-hour delay, and any further comments you may care to make on the project are solicited.


Assistant Director for Operations

cc: Deputy Director (Intelligence)
Assistant Director for Intelligence Coordination

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October 17, 1952

STAT

TO:

[redacted]
Assistant Director for Operations
Central Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Baltic SSR's

Reference is made to your memorandum dated 21 August on the above subject, which has been given to me for a coordinated reply.

The Department of State is definitely interested in monitoring of the Baltic area, from which we are presently receiving only a very limited amount of information. The proposed coverage would fill a gap in our intelligence, the value of which may be somewhat impaired by the estimated 96-hour delay but would nevertheless be of great value.

In view of the necessary delay in obtaining the replies to your memorandum, I have already informed FBID verbally of the Department's estimate of the value of this coverage.

[redacted]
Acting Chief, CIA Liaison Branch
Acquisition and Distribution Division

CIA-2507

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Attn: Assistant Director for Operations

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 21 August 1962, subject, same as above, soliciting comments on the estimated value of subject coverage in fulfilling intelligence and psychological warfare requirements.

3. A delay of ninety-six (96) hours or more would not appreciably reduce the value of this coverage insofar as the USAF is concerned.

Director of Intelligence

10 Sep 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS


SUBJECT : Monitoring of Baltic SSR's

1. Your memorandum to DD/P of 21 August 1952 explains a proposal to monitor, through an arrangement with the British Broadcasting Corporation, domestic radio broadcasts in the northwestern USSR and requests our comments.

2. We feel that the proposed operation would produce information of value to several branches under DD/P. The estimated 96-hour delay in processing should not seriously reduce the value to us of the monitored texts.

3. If a decision is reached to effect this Baltic coverage, we should appreciate being alerted regarding the date when FBID will begin to publish the broadcasts.

4. It is understood that the DD/P area will not be required to provide any financial support in connection with the project.


Chief, Political and Psychological
Warfare Staff

I

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28 August 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS

SUBJECT : Monitoring of Baltic SSR's

**REFERENCE : Memo from AD/OC dated 21 August 1952
Monitoring of Baltic SSR's**

1. Production of National Intelligence estimates relating to the Soviet Union is always hindered by a lack of detailed evidence. Our information concerning the Baltic Territories is especially scanty. Monitoring of Baltic SSR's would therefore probably make a distinct contribution to our intelligence effort. Moreover, according to the fifth Five Year Plan, the Baltic area will have greater importance in the next few years than it has had in the past. As a consequence, any information we get on this area will shed considerable light on the changes taking place throughout the Soviet Union under the pressure of this last Plan.

2. The 96-hour delay mentioned would not be important so far as the interests of ONE are concerned.

**SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates**

Assistant Director for Operations

Assistant Director for Research and Reports

Monitoring of Baltic SSR

Reference: Your memo of 21 August 1952, subject same as above.

1. The security of information on the Baltic area of the USSR (Ostland) makes the proposed monitoring project of value to ORR. Regional programs may contain economic data on the Ostland and relayed programs from Moscow Home Service would necessarily be selective and slanted toward the interests of the Baltic area.

2. The value to ORR of the proposed coverage would be unaffected by the 96-hour delay mentioned in your memorandum.

ROBERT AMORY, JR.

21 Oct 52

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Operations

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Baltic SSR's

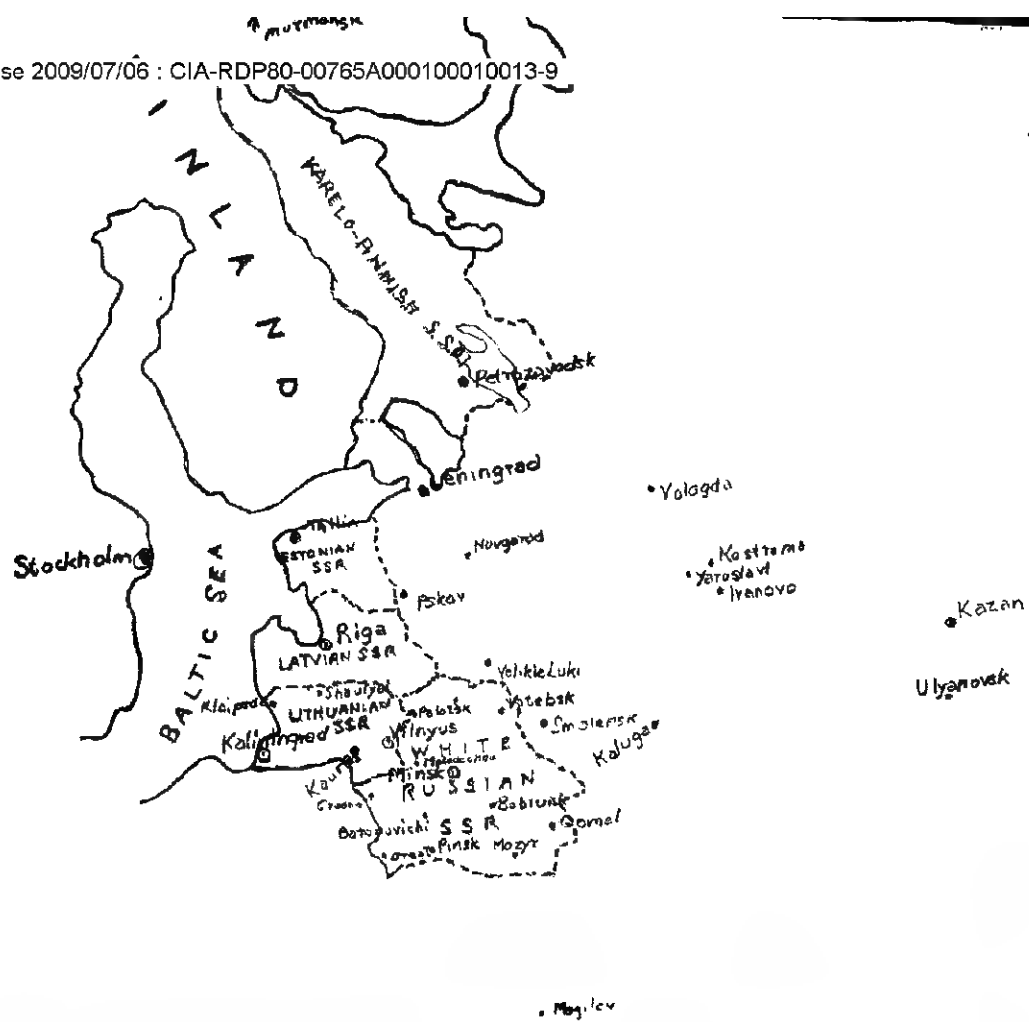
REFERENCE: Memorandum from the Assistant Director for Operations, dated 21 August 1952, same subject.

1. In reply to the reference memorandum, the Office of Current Intelligence believes the monitoring of the Baltic SSR broadcasts would result in intelligence information of sufficient value to warrant the annual cost of \$50,000.

2. In our opinion, the character of the information is such that the four day lag in receipt will not significantly affect its value.

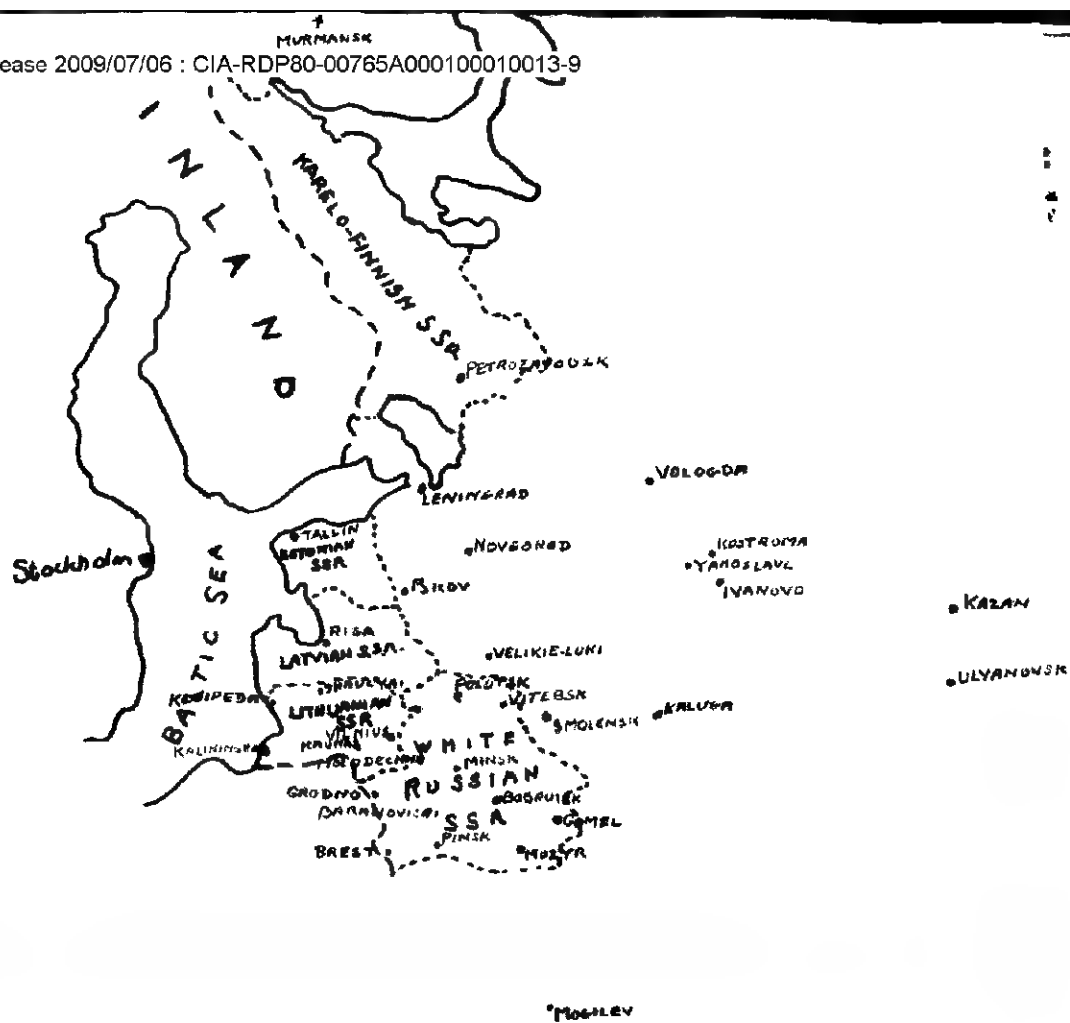
HUGHINGTON P. SHULTON
Assistant Director
Current Intelligence

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3.17
90
2.00
69
80
3.46
2.70
3.97
1.83
5.04
36
1.80
1.06
.51
.30
2.58

Daily Average 31.17*

12.90
27.50
19.00
22.00
6.00
14.40
4.83
5.66
24.25
38.30
12.75
7.42
3.58
2.08
18.08

Weekly Outfit 218.75*
of 3 groups

TALLINN I

1034 710

04:40 - 04:50	Estonian	N	70
05:30 - 05:45	"	N	165
08:00 - 08:15	"	PT (alternate Mondays)	15
10:30 - 10:45	"	NCP (Sunday)	15
11:00 - 11:30	Finnish	NCP (Sunday)	15
13:30 - 13:40	Estonian	P	70
13:40 - 14:00	Russian	P (not Monday)	20
14:30 - 14:45	Estonian	F (Tuesday)	15
15:00 - 15:30	Finnish	NCP (not Sunday)	180
15:40 - 16:00	Estonian	P	140
16:30 - 17:00	"	F (Sun/Tue/Thurs.)	90
16:40 - 17:00	"	T (irreg) (Sat.)	20
17:30 - 18:00	"	F (varies)	140
19:25 - 19:45	"	N	105
19:45 - 20:00	Russian	N	105

(226) 1525

3.17 hrs.

TALLINN II

1214 710

06:00 - 08:00	Estonian	N	(Wed/Fri.)	120
15:00 - 15:30	"	T	(Mon/Wed/Fri.)	90
16:30 - 17:00	Russ/Estonian	T	(not Sat/Sun.)	150

360 m
(6 hrs)

0.96

RIGA I

575

03:30 - 03:45	Latvian	N	105
05:20 - 05:40	"	N	140
07:30 - 07:45	"	T or F (Tue/Fri.)	30
09:20 - 09:30	"	PR	70
09:50 - 10:00	Russian	PR	70
10:15 - 10:45	Latvian	T or F (Sunday)	30
12:00 - 12:20	"	PR (Sunday)	20
13:10 - 13:30	"	PR (not Sunday)	120
15:00 - 15:15	Russian	T or F (Wednesday)	15
15:30 - 15:45	"	N	15
16:00 - 16:30	Latvian	N (Sunday)	30
16:20 - 16:30	"	T or F (Monday)	20
16:30 - 16:50	"	T or F (Saturday)	20
16:30 - 17:00	"	T or F (not Sat.)	180
16:30 - 17:00	(Wed/Fri. Russian)	T or F (not Sat.)	180

RIGA I (cont'd)

17:15 - 17:30	Latvian	T or F	(Sunday)
17:30 - 17:45	"	T or F	(Fri/Sat.)
	"	C	(Monday)
17:30 - 17:50	"	T or F	(Thursday)
17:30 - 18:00	"	T or F	(Wednesday)
18:15 - 18:45	"	N	(not Sun/Tuesday)
18:45 - 19:15	"	N	(Tuesday)

RIGA II

1349

Weekly = $\frac{483}{290}$ hrs
Daily = $\frac{483}{290} \times 24 = 0.69$

Program carries Music, relays of Moscow or occasional Talks. Further checking required.

KALININGRAD

1142

05:20 - 05:45	Russian	T or F	(not Friday)
	"	PR	(Friday)
15:00 - 15:15	"	N	(not Thursday)
15:15 - 15:30	"	T or F	(not Thurs/Sat/Sun.)
15:30 - 15:45	"	N	(Thursday)

340

Program details still incomplete. Further checking required.

Weekly = $\frac{5.66}{5.66} \times 24 = 0.80$
Daily = $\frac{5.66}{5.66} \times 24 = 0.80$

MINSK I

281

04:40 - 05:00	Russian	NPF	(Smolensk Studio)
05:20 - 05:45	Byelorussian	N	
06:00 - 06:15	"	T	
07:50 - 08:00	"	PT	
08:00 - 08:15	"	P	
09:45 - 10:00	Russian	N	(Sun. in Byelorussian)
10:45 - 11:00	Byelorussian	P	
13:00 - 13:20	"	N	
15:30 - 15:45	Russian	NP	(Smolensk Studio)
15:45 - 16:00	"	F	(Smolensk Studio)
16:20 - 16:40	Byelorussian	F	
17:00 - 17:20	"	N	(Saturday)
17:10 - 17:30	"	N	(Mon/Tue/Fri.)
17:40 - 18:00	"	N	(not Mon/Tue/Fri)

1455 m.
Weekly 24.25 hours
Early Average 3.46 hours

Group II

VILNYUS I

665 kcs

WEEKLY

04:20 - 04:40	Lithuanian	N	20	140
05:30 - 05:45	"	PR (not Monday)	15	90
06:15 - 06:25	"	N	10	70
06:35 - 07:00	"	PR (Monday)	25	25
06:35 - 07:00	"	N & PR (not Monday)	25	125
	(Sun. in Russian)	→		25
07:00 - 09:00	Lithuanian	N (not Sat/Sunday)	120	600
09:30 - 09:45	"	PR (Monday)	15	15
10:00 - 10:15	"	T or F (not Sunday)	15	90
10:40 - 11:00	"	T (Sunday)	20	20
10:45 - 11:00	Polish	N	15	105
11:00 - 11:55	Russian	N (not Sunday)	55	330
13:10 - 13:30	Lithuanian	T (Friday)	20	20
13:30 - 14:00	Polish	F (Tuesday)	30	30
15:00 - 15:30	Lithuanian	PR	30	210
15:30 - 15:45	Russian	T or F (Friday)	15	15
15:30 - 16:00	Russian	T or F (Wednesday)	30	30
	Polish	T or F (Thursday)	30	30
16:30 - 17:00	Lithuanian	T or F (Wednesday)	30	30
17:30 - 17:45	"	T or F (Mon/Wed/Sat.)	15	45
17:30 - 18:00	"	T or F (Tuesday)	30	30
18:00 - 18:15	"	T or F (Sunday)	15	15
19:00 - 19:30	"	N & C	30	210

Weekly 38.3 hours
Daily av. 5.4 hours

2300 ~ 38 hrs
20 mins.

VILNYUS II

1385 kcs

14:30 - 14:55 Lithuanian T or F 25

(further details unavailable)

KAUNAS (Lithuanian Relay Station, used in Vilnyus network for relaying Studio Transmissions. Transmitter location not yet verified.)

827 kcs

Daily av. 1.8 hours *12.75*
765 *12.75* *45 mins*

08:15 - 08:35	Lithuanian	F (not Sunday)	(SHYAUZYAY Studio)	20	120 ✓
08:45 - 09:00	Russian	F or T (not Sun/Mon.)	(SHYAUZYAY Studio)	15	75
	Russian	N (Monday)	(SHYAUZYAY Studio)	15	15
10:20 - 10:45	Lithuanian	NCP (not Sunday)	(KLAYPEDA Studio)	25	150 ✓
10:45 - 11:00	Russian	N (not Sun/Tues.)	(KLAYPEDA Studio)	15	75
11:00 - 11:20	Lithuanian	N (not Sunday)	(KAUNAS Studio)	20	120 ✓
11:20 - 11:35	Lithuanian	T (not Sunday)	(KAUNAS Studio)	15	90 ✓
11:40 - 12:00	Russian	F (not Sunday)	(KAUNAS Studio)	20	120 ✓

LENINGRAD

CIRREGULAR Frequency)

04:40 - 05:00	Russian	N	(not Monday)
08:00 - 08:20	"	P	(not Sun/Mon.)
16:40 - 17:00	"	NP	
17:50 - 18:20	"	F	(alternate Fridays)
18:00 - 18:25	"	N	(Monday)
18:10 - 18:25	"	F	(Wed/Thurs.)

LENINGRAD ~~1124~~

(1124 kcs)

445 min
Weekly 7 ~~45 min~~
7.42

Daily average: 1.06

10:00 - 10:20	"	P	(Sunday)
15:00 - 15:20	"	F	(Tuesday)
15:00 - 16:00	"	F	(Mon/Wed.)
17:15 - 17:45	"	F	(Sat.)
17:35 - 17:50	"	F	(Monday)
17:50 - 18:00 (V)	"	F	(Friday)

215

LENINGRAD ~~800~~

(800 Kcs)

Weekly 3 ~~hr 35 min~~
3.58

Daily: 0.51

14:25 - 15:00	"	F	(Wednesday)
15:00 - 15:30	"	F	(Mon/Tue/Fri.)

125

LENINGRAD ~~263~~ (263 kcs)

Weekly: 3 ~~hr 5 min~~
2.08 Daily: 0.30

04:20 - 04:40	"	N	(Velikiye Luki Studio)
04:40 - 05:00	"	N	(Pskov Studio)
05:20 - 05:30	"	N	(Vologda Studio)
14:15 - 14:45	"	N	(Velikiye Luki Studio)
14:45 - 15:00	"	N	(Vologda Studio)
15:00 - 15:30	"	N	(Pskov Studio)
15:30 - 16:00	"	N	(Novgorod Studio)

108.5

Weekly: 18 ~~hr 5 min~~
18.08 Daily: 2.58

9750 kcs is used irregularly.

Group III

PETROZAVODSK

4995

611

04:45 - 05:00	Finnish	PF
05:20 - 05:35	"	NF
13:10 - 13:30	"	P (Mon/Thurs/Fri.)
13:30 - 13:45	"	NC (Saturday)
13:30 - 14:00	"	F (Sunday)
14:00 - 14:15	"	N (not Sunday)
14:30 - 14:45	"	N (not Sat/Sun.)
15:00 - 15:20	"	F (Mon/Tue.)
15:00 - 15:30	"	T (Wed/Fri.)
16:00 - 16:20	"	N (Sunday)
16:00 - 16:30	"	N (Wednesday)
16:20 - 16:35	"	N (Thurs.)(Sat. 16:30 - 16:45)
16:35 - 16:50	Russian	N (Thurs)
17:00 - 17:15	Finnish	N (Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri.)
17:00 - 17:15	Russian	N (Saturday)
17:15 - 17:30	Russian	N (Mon/Tue/Wed/Fri.)
17:45 - 18:45	Finnish	F (Monday)
17:50 - 18:50	"	F (Wednesday)
18:00 - 20:30	"	F (Tuesday)
18:00 - 19:00	"	F (Friday)

*1140 Weekly daily average
9 hours 2.7 hours*

Group III

MINSK II

1106 (Mogilev) 400 (Minsk II)

03:25 - 04:00	Byelorussian NP	(Bobruysk Studio)
04:20 - 04:40	"	NPF (Grodno Studio)
05:30 - 05:45	"	NP (Baranovichi Studio)
16:20 - 16:40	"	T
17:40 - 18:00	"	N

*Weekly 770 m.
1209 hours daily av. 1.83*

The following studios are believed to transmit news, press reports, music or features:

06:15 - 07:00	Vitebsk
07:00 - 07:45	Gomel
13:30 - 14:00	Molodechno
14:00 - 14:30	Pinsk
14:30 - 15:00	Polotsk
15:00 - 15:30	Mozyr
16:40 - 17:10	Brest
17:10 - 17:40	Mogilev

*Weekly Total 275 hrs
Daily Average 3.97 hours*

*daily av. Total 31.17 hours
Weekly Total 218.75 hours*

Total 7 languages

<i>Lithuanian</i>	<i>Finnish</i>
<i>Russian</i>	<i>Latvian</i>
<i>Polish</i>	<i>Byelorussian</i>
<i>Estonian</i>	